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Dear Park:

We have recently been reviewing the biographic function in the Agency and its relationship to the facilities maintained by the Department of State. Under HSCID 3 the Department of State with its responsibility for political, cultural, and social intelligence has found it necessary to establish a biographic register. Since the establishment of CIA this Agency has considered it necessary to develop its own biographic register in the same fields in order to meet its internal needs. As a result there has existed considerable duplication of effort between CIA and the State Department in the maintenance of biographic data on such personalities. In view of the limited resources available to intelligence activities it is my belief that such duplication should be eliminated.

Informal discussions between OIC and OCD and your OLI have indicated that your present resources are today hardly sufficient to seet departmental needs, let alone the demands of this Agency. However, it is believed that it would be possible for the Department to seet the needs of this Agency by CIA transferring the necessary funds to the Department of State to meet the additional cost. This would be, of course, with the understanding that certain adjustments might be necessary on its part, such as slight adaptation of your methods to permit continuation in CIA of machine techniques for rapid sorting and reproduction of data by categories.

This Agency proposes, therefore, that subject to concurrence of the Bureau of the Budget in the financial arrangements to be worked out, and which are in keeping with both general Federal practice and specifically Section 6 (a), Public Law 110, we

Hr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr.
Special Assistant, Intelligence
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

agree that the CIA will discontinue its review and processing and preparation of reports on personalities in the political, cultural, and social fields and depend on the State Department for such service.

JQR/mpb OIC-14 Oct 52

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